# Community Indicators: Making the data more meaningful

# Examples from the Roaring Fork Valley

**Healthy Mountain Communities** 

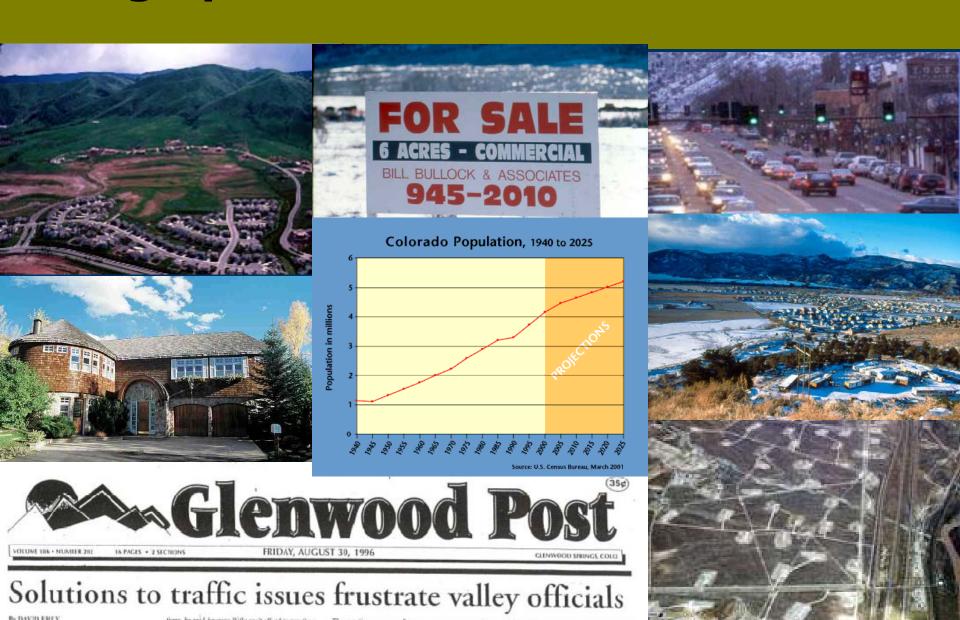
State Planning and Management Regions Sedgwick Logan Larimer Moffat ¦Phillips: Jackson Weld Routt 2 Morgan Boulder Grand Yumai Rio Blanco Gilpin Lear Os Creek Ja Jay Denver Adams Washington' Clear-Garfield <u>Arapahoe</u> Eagle Kit Carson Elbert Pitkin /Douglas ⊵ak<u>e</u> **Park** Mesa **El Paso** Delta Cheyenne Chaffee Telleh Gunnison Lincoln Fremont Kiowa Montrose Crowley Ouraly Pueblo Custer Saguache San Miguel Prowers Bent Otero Hinsdale Miner al San Juan Dolores Huerfano . Grande Alamoș<mark>ă</mark>" Montezuma Baca Las Animas La Plata Conejos Archuleta 'Costilla

The Roaring Fork & Colorado River Valleys Garfield County Eagle County NEW CASTLE **GLENWOOD SPRINGS** RIFLE To: DENVER PARACHUTE 145 MILES SILT EL JEBEL CARBONDALE BASALT(Pitkin) Pitkin County To: GRAND JUNCTION 60 MILES REDSTONE ASPEN SNOWMASS VILLAGE Legend Counties Charlier Associates Mrs. Towns and Cities 1-19-00

#### Why Community Indicators?

- Inform and engage
- Common understanding & common ground
- Move debate to dialogue
- Foster collaborative problemsolving

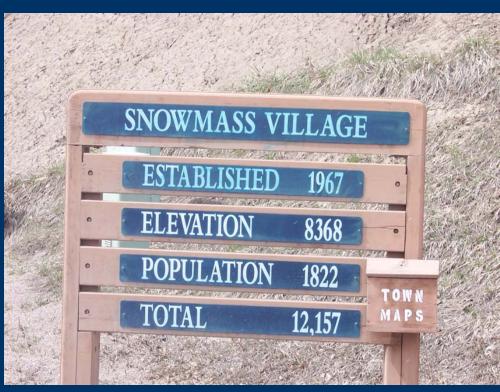
#### Tough problems know no boundaries



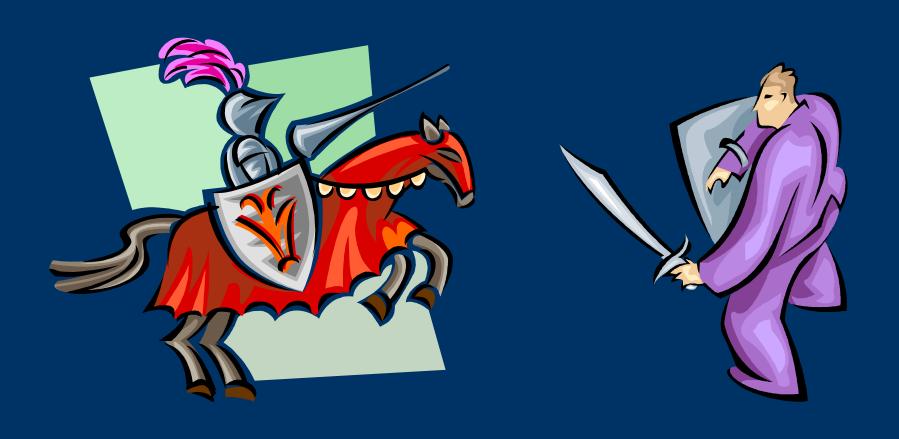
# Community leaders face tough decisions with incomplete information



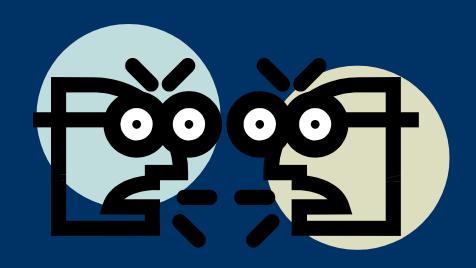




# Our argument culture predisposes public debate as a battle

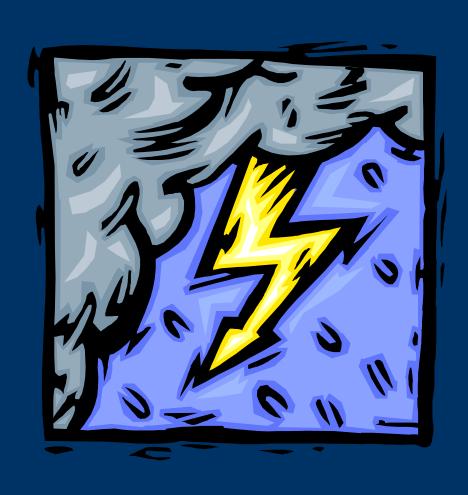


# Polarized debate limits information we get to two sides



... and undercuts problem-solving

# A perfect storm preventing problem-solving



### **Healthy Mountain Communities**



501c3 Nonprofit Corporation since 1994

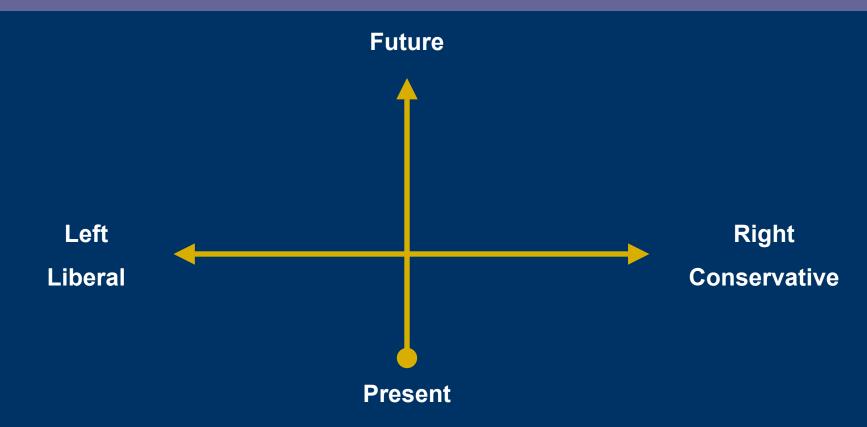
## Board of Directors (currently 7)

- Citizens from region
- Local Elected Officials
- Local Government Staff

#### **Funding Sources**

- Contract Services
- Local Governments
- State Grants
- Private Foundations
- Individual Contributions

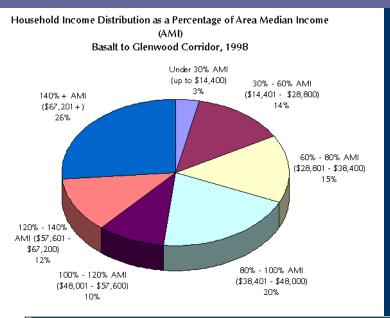
### HMC's role: Move debate to dialogue

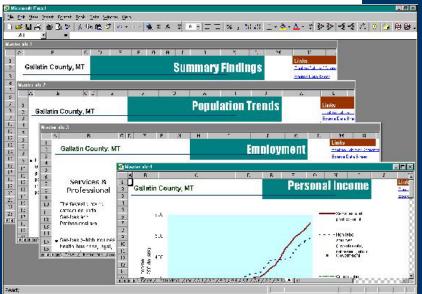


"Dialogue is a conversation with a center, not sides. It is a way of taking the energy of our differences and channeling it toward something that has never been created before."

- William Isaacs

#### Localize data & build trust

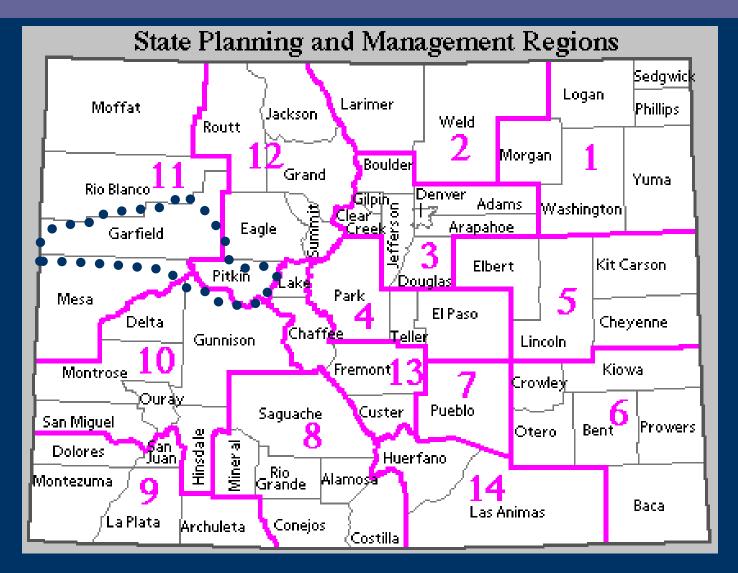




"Debate (courts, parliaments) works for deciding between already created alternatives, but it does not create anything new. We must listen and in dialogue for this to happen."

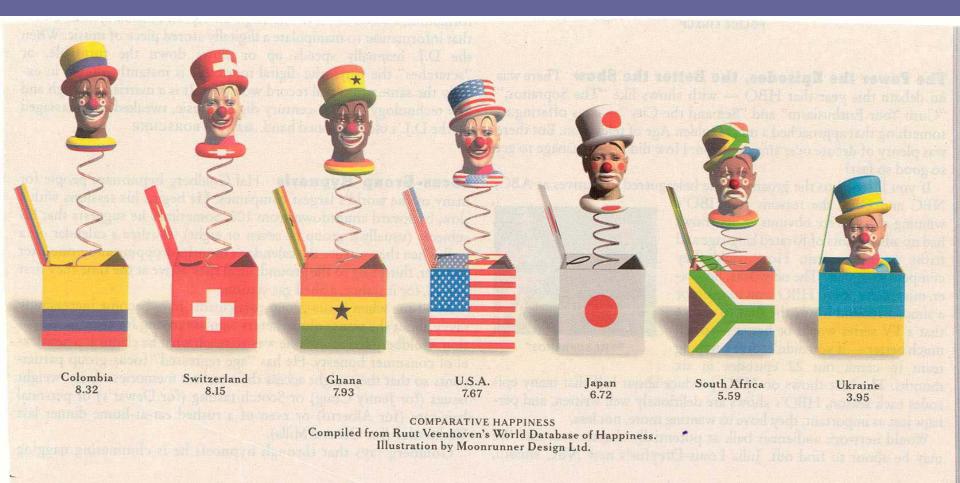
- Adam Kahane

### Think regionally



Beyond political and professional boundaries

### Broaden the definition of health



THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE / DECEMBER 9, 2001 69

... and the scope of the debate

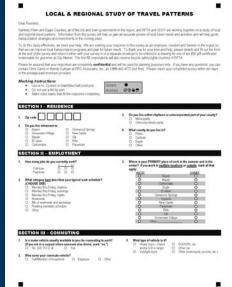
### Broaden the tools of engagement



Procedural problem solving

"The quality of engagement determines the quality of outcomes."

-- David Chrislip



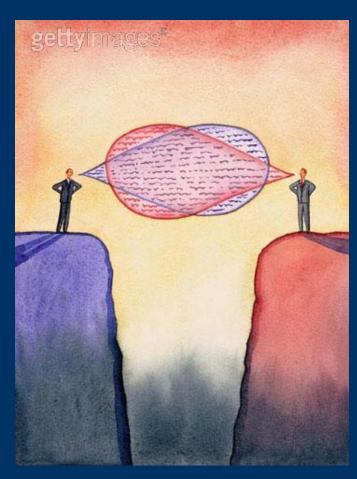




Participatory problem solving

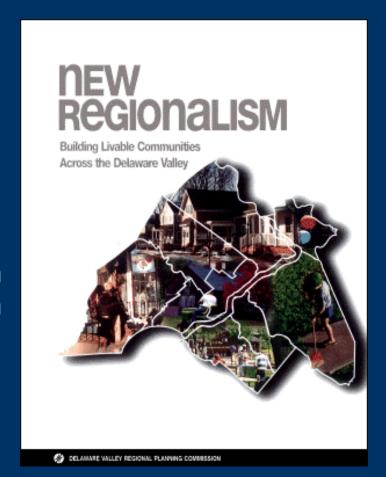
**Enlarge problem-solving possibilities** 

#### Foster collaboration



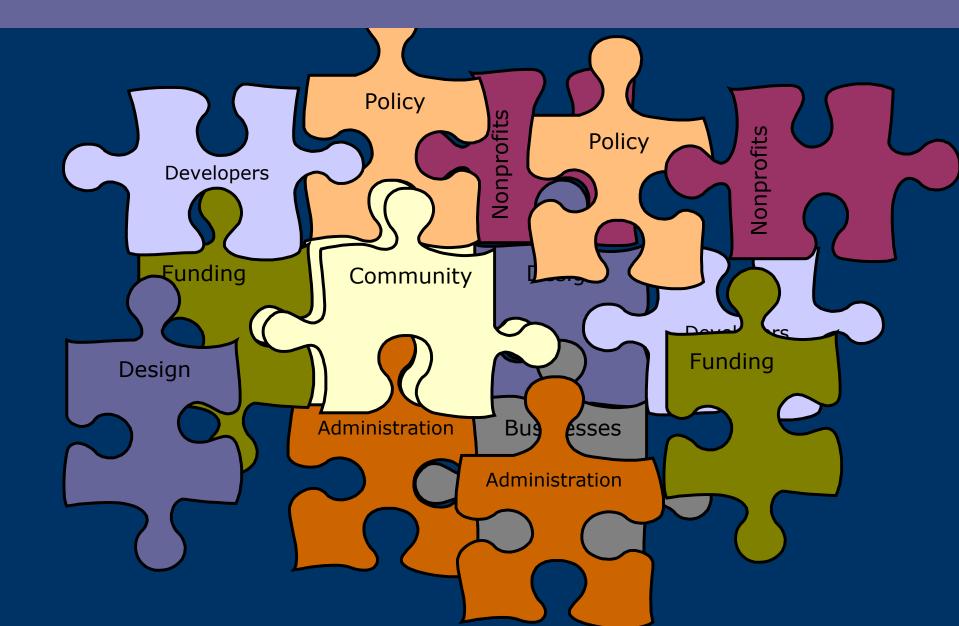
"We have more in common than in conflict."

> - Rev. Wm Sloan Coffin



Turn sides into innovative solutions

### **Enlarge the possible solutions**



# Community Indicators: A tool for engagement

#### **Healthy Community Indicators**

A Tool for Sustainable Development in the Roaring Fork & Colorado River Valleys



A Report on Long Term Trends in Our Region

February 1996

The Sustainable Roaring Fork Valley Committee & Healthy Mountain Communities

#### TRANSPORTATION



VOLUME 106 + NUMBER 201

16 PAGES + 2 SECTIONS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 1996

GLENSVOOD SPRINGS, COLD

### Solutions to traffic issues frustrate valley officials

By DAVID FREY Part staff writer

It's not a new story.

The people who work in the town can't affired to live in the town, so they commute. Iraffic congestion worsens Domestic violence rates worsen Quality of life worsens.

The wory could be about Aspen, or Carbonable. or Glenwood. Now, Rifle, once considered the affordable alternative to more expensive appealed towns, is the latest to work the same complaints.

"It's very sad," said city afficial Sandy Vaccarto. The nown has trouble attracting new police officers

there, he said because fliffe eas't afford to pay theat amongh to live there.

Vaccarro's concerns offered one more example of how downsalley communities are sharing the same problems with their spealley neighbors.

Vaccarro was among representatives from Rifle. Silt, Glenwood Springs, Carbondale, Aspen and Eagle and Pittin counties who gathered in Carbondate Thursday night in a transportation roundtable more to share problems than to seach solutions.

The discussion was busted by Healthy Mountain. Communities, a morprofit group that studies regional

The meeting was one of numerous recent meetings between area governments to discoss growth problems they face, which often result more in discursions than solutions.

That tendescy frustrated Pitkin Courty Commissioner blick Ireland, who angrify urged officials to throw away their agenda and delve into more substantive topics.

"If we put the schedule in front of the objective, we're not going to get anything done," he said. "Are we really serious about doing this and having valleywide discussions?\*

treised used Thursday's meeting to pash bit own. Please see 'Traffie,' Page 1A.

"save and build" approach to a rulley rail system, which he said looks beyond current transportation problems to save money to solve anticipated transportation woes expected 20 years forward.

freland's plan would set aside revenues from a half-cent tax for rail, and form a 1-mill taxing district. between Aspen and El Jehel, placing those mones in an escriw account. Voters would need to approve construction of the rail system when funds were available. In the membine, two new lines would be built on Highway 82 to relieve 5-curve congestion.

#### Connecting data to local issues

#### LOCAL AND REGIONAL TRAVEL PATTERNS STUDY



1998 **HEALTHY MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES** 

#### Supplement state data with local data

#### Survey finds commuting life not just an Aspen problem

More than half of Glenwood's workers live elsewhere

By Robert Ward Aspen Times Staff Writer

It's no secret that more than half of Aspen's work force lives outside of town. But the same may well be true for Glenwood Springs.

A new study of regional travel patterns in the Roaring Fork Valley region shows that Glenwood, like Aspen, actually houses only 40 percent of its workers.

have the same problem," said Colin Laird of the regional nonprofit Healthy Mountain Communities. "All of those people show up in the morning and leave in the evening, and there is lots of traffic.'

Laird and transportation consultant Jim Charlier recently unveiled the preliminary results of a \$50,000 transportation study funded by local governments and a grant from the Governor's Office of Energy Conservation.

While all the numbers aren't in, they are confident that the preliminary numbers paint a fairly accurate picture of commuter behavior in the valley. Surveys were mailed "At both ends of the valley we to 200 employers and about 2,500 See Survey on page 24-A

been returned so far.

"We've gotten a good response rate so far - about 15 percent and we're hoping to get it even higher," Laird said Friday.

Generally speaking, the study shows a commuting work force that moves in various directions at different times of day, a picture more complicated than the simple upvalley-downvalley round trip to

The wintertime survey, which Laird said should be duplicated in the summer for a more thorough picture, shows about 14 percent of Glenwood's work force commuting

#### 82% in Glenwood drive to work alone

#### Survey shows untapped demand for downvalley transit

By BERNIE GRAUER Post staff writer

CARBONDALE - A large, untapped demand for mass transit exists below Carbondale. where little or no transport exists today, according to a travel patterns survey sponsored by Healthy Mountain Communities.

With 23 percent of Carbondale residents commuting by bus and 30 percent of Basalt residents doing the same, the fact that less than one percent of Glenwood and downvalley residents use the bus attests to that pent-up demand.

"Although the average bus trip is subsidized by about \$1.68. the savings to the valley in polluion, congestion and traffic delays has a real value to the community," said Dan Blankenship, general manager of the Roaring Fork Transit Agency.

Many transit critics have suggested that mass transit only relieves about 5 to 10 percent of highway traffic, but the potential for mass transit in our valley is much greater, said Jim Charlier. the travel survey consultant.

Not surprisingly, communities with the best bus service have

the lowest percentage of drivealone commuters. Drive-alones make up 39 percent of Basalt residents, 46 percent of Aspen residents and about 55 percent for El Jebel and Carbondale.

Glenwood leads the valley with 82 percent of drive-alone commuters, with downvalley communities close behind. Only 44 percent of Glenwood residents work in the city. The Glenwood commuter drives an average of 14.6 miles to work, one

The average valley commuter travels 18.3 miles one way. Aspen commuters drive only an average of 5.2 miles one-way, while Rifle and Silt residents drive almost 30 miles and Parachute residents drive an average of 36.9 miles.

"People know that rents are less expensive as you move downvalley; however, they may not be aware of size of commuting costs," Charlier said. Using a cost of auto travel of 45 centsper-mile, Parachute households are spending over \$14,000 a year, about 28 percent of household income, to get to work. according to the survey.

### Getting people together





Aspen, Snowmass Village, Woody Creek, Basalt, El Jebel, Carbondale, Glenwood, Rifle

APRIL 27- MAY 3, 1997 - Vol. 2 No. 24 - FREE

#### Nights At The Roundtable

Over Pizza, Soda, Officials From Aspen To Parachute Gather Momentum To Solve Our Regional Transportation Problems

BY DONNA J. DOWLING Roaring Fork Sunday Writer

A little-publicized cadre of officials from Aspen to Parachute has been gathering in recent months over pizza, cookies and sodas, and after only eight dinner meetings the group seems to be

emerging as a new force — pushing for regional transportation planning for the Roaring Fork and Grand valleys.

Among its accomplishments the group helped get state legislation drafted, sponsored and passed this winter that will allow regions like ours to form rural transportation districts. Before the legislation, forming such districts wasn't a legal option outside metro Denver.

Gov. Roy Romer is expected to sign the bill into law soon.

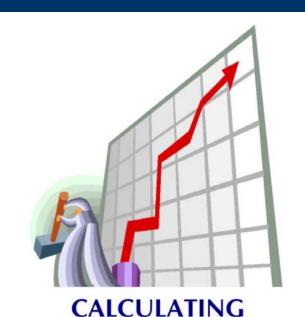
Another accomplishment: all 12 governments

Please turn to ROUNDTABLE, Page 6 →

"Dynamic places have dynamic problems. The West has plenty. Resolving these problems will require dynamic, healthy conversation in communities."

- Frank Allen Institute for Journalism & the Environment

### **Enlarging the possibilities**



MODELS, METHODOLOGIES, AND REVENUE STREAMS

THE COSTS OF GROWTH







### Common understanding moves debate to dialogue

NOVEMBER 24-30, 1996 - Roaring Fork Sunday - PAGE 23

#### Business & REAL ESTATE

#### State Rep. Russell George

I just don't want to include anyone who is not interested. It's just too volatile'

#### **New Multiple-County Transit District Is** Gleam In Eye of Valley

BY DONNA J. DOWLING

t would take an unprecedented spirit of regional cooperation, but nearly two dozen elected officials from Aspen to Parachute seemed eager last week to pursue details on forming a multi-county transit district that could solve tricky transportation woes in the Roaring Fork and Colorado

Such a new taxing district - which must be created by the Colorado legislature - is still a gleam in the eye of elected officials, who heard some strategy ideas from state Rep. Russell George (R-

With the state legislative session poised to begin, George told the regional gathering that he would pursue information about what it would take to form such a

The legal aspects of it would be simple, he said. The hard part will be getting voter support and warding off any mass protest down at the state capital when the idea first gets a hearing.

"I'm much more concerned about the politics," said George. Jacque Whitsitt, a Basalt trustee

Russell George

who has researched the Rural Transportation Authority bill that failed during last year's legislative session, outlined how the bill came to exist and why it went down.

In essence, the bill would have allowed statewide rural areas the ability to create transportation authorities outside Metro Denver. If a community were to pursue such a district, it would still ultimately require voter

The bill may have failed because it appeared late in the legislative session and there wasn't time for coalitions to get behind it, said

"That's a whole different picture this year," she said. A similar bill could

eappear during the upcoming egislative session. Whitsitt and a handful of other elected officials agreed to meet as a subcommittee of the Healthy

Mountain Communities Transportation Roundtable to track that proposed legislation, outlining how this region's elected officials could influence the process.

George's approach seemed to focus more regionally versus statewide. He talked about the specifics that were needed to even begin to draft a

Please turn to TRANSIT, Page 28 -

### Area governments may band together

**By Robert Ward** 

Aspen Times Staff Writer

A transportation district covering the entire Parachute-to-Aspen region could raise an estimated \$4 million per year for bus, road and rail needs.

Elected officials from 12 local governments continue to move ahead with plans for a regional district to help residents and tourists move around within the Roaring Fork and Colorado river valleys. A recent analysis conducted as part of the effort confirmed the agency's potential financial muscle.

The state government recently gave cities and counties the ability to jointly create interjurisdictional agencies to raise and spend money on transportation. The agencies are empowered to levy sales taxes of up to four-tenths of a penny. They can also charge car registration fees and farebox fees on buses and other forms of public transit.

Such an entity is seen as a possible way out of the transportation problems that plague the upper Roaring Fork Valley, and increasingly its downvalley neighbors. Three counties and nine municipalities are considering it locally, and representatives from most of those jurisdictions agreed last week to continue moving ahead with the

"At this meeting we tried to figure out, 'Now that we have the tool, do we want to use it?" said Colin Laird of Healthy Mountain Communities, a local nonprofit

"At this meeting we tried to figure out, 'Now that we have the tool, do we want to use it?"

> Colin Laird. Healthy Mountain Communities

organization facilitating the effort. "People basically said, 'Yes. We want to use it."

The \$4 million figure assumes that a four-tenths of a penny sales tax would be ■ See District on page 11

#### The RTA is a terrific deal for the entire valley!



Sam Skramstad Mayor **Glenwood Springs** 



Randy Vanderhurs t Mayor Carbondale



Mike Manchester Mayor Snowmass Village



**Rachel Richards** Mayor Aspen



**Rick Stevens** Mayor Basalt



**Tony Hershey** City Councilman Aspen



Marianne Virgili Executive Director Chamber Resort Assoc Glenwood Springs



Don Vanderhoof Councilman **Glenwood Springs** 



Walt Stowe Commissioner **Garfield County** 



John Foulkrod Builder Carbondale



**Business Owner** 



Bassir



Former President Chamber Resort Assor



Olympic Cyclist





City Councilman Glenwood Springs



Mary Steinbrecher City Councilwoman



Theo Bird



Olivia Emery Architect



Randy Udali Energy Expert Carbondale



jan Krueger School Finance Director



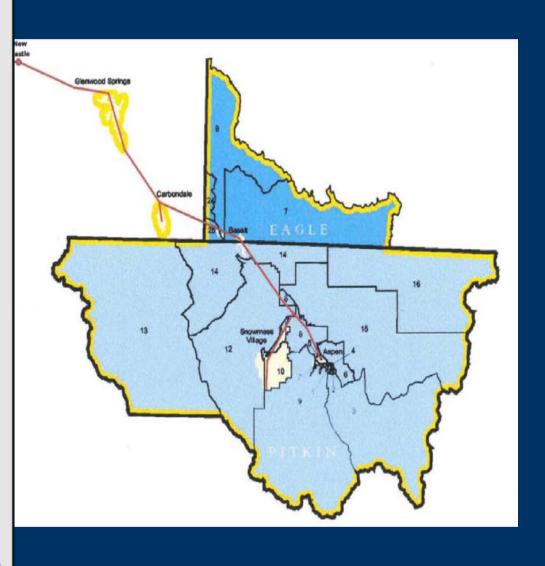
Bus Drivers

#### Vote YES on IA and 4B/4C for a better, faster regional bus system

- · 1/2 hour service throughout the valley
- · Service to Rifle, Silt and New Castle
- · Takes 5,000 cars per day off the roads

annual mental depotes com-

find for by Valley Moved



#### AFFORDABLE HOUSING



Aiming to pin down housing's moving target By JOHN STROUD Sunday, July 25, 1999

For as long as affordable housing, or the lack thereof, has been a concerning issue for communities in the resort-driven real estate markets of western Colorado, the term affordable has been one of the most nebulous words to define. What to do about the problem has been an even bigger dilemma.

Lacking a clear definition of the issue, local governments have been slow to respond, often recognizing that there is indeed a problem, but with no real consensus on how to address it.

#### Regional Affordable Housing Initiative

Basalt + Carbondale + Glenwood Springs + Eagle County + Garfield County



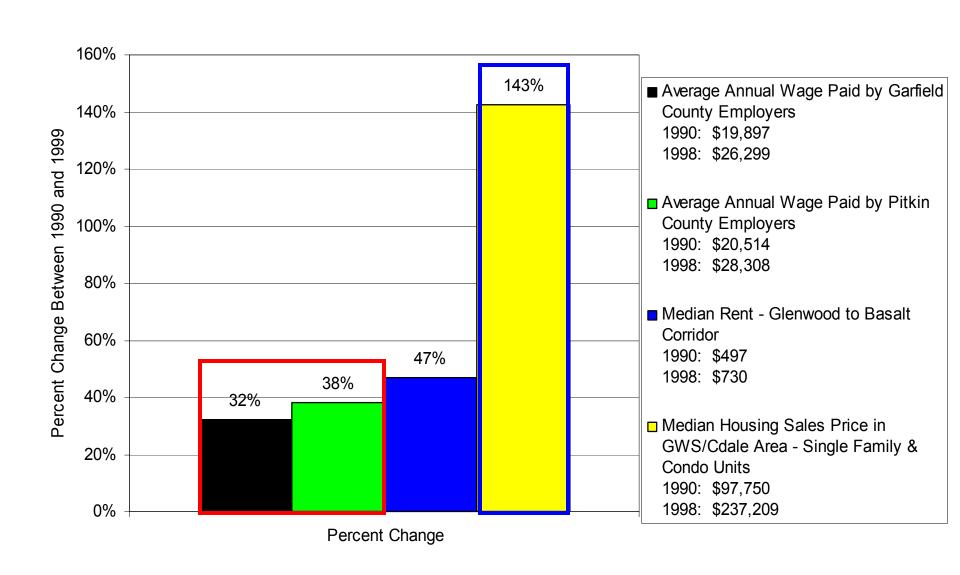
- 1998-2000
- Nexus Analysis
- Tool Analysis
- Legal Analysis
- Model ordinances
- Administrative structure

Elected officials, planners, citizens, & business representatives participating because they believed they could not solve the issue alone

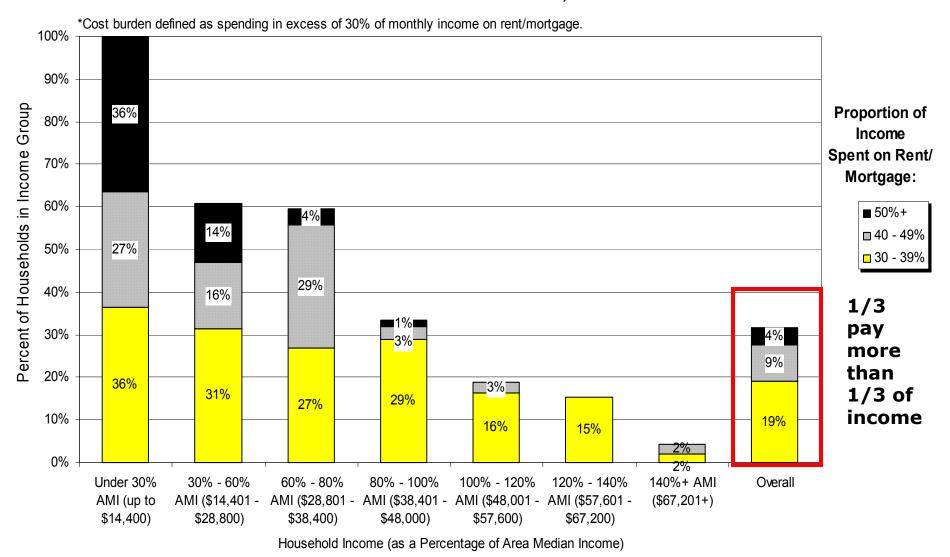
#### Localize data



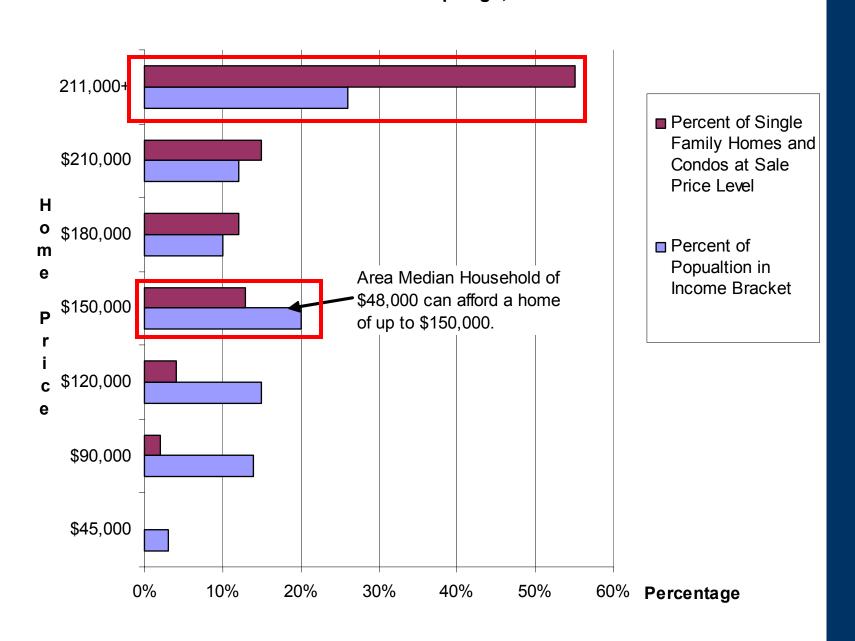
#### Percentage Change in Wages and Housing Prices in the Glenwood - Basalt Corridor 1990 to 1998



#### Proportion of Households Which Are Experiencing a Housing Cost Burden\* by Income Bracket - Basalt to Glenwood Corridor, 1998



# Percentage of Population vs. Percentage of Home by Income/Affordability Bracket, Basalt to Glenwood Springs, 1998



### Regional Housing Summit

#### September 2001



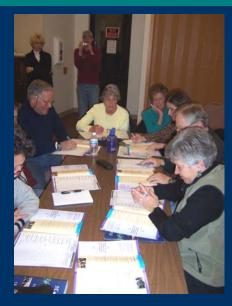
Carbondale - Garfield County - Glenwood Springs - Basalt - Eagle County



### Final Report

Smart Growth Regional Partnerships Program Colorado Department of Local Affairs









## C'dale adopts affordable housing regs

15 percent of all new housing to meet pricing standards

By John Stroud Valley Journal staff writer October 11, 2001

The Carbondale Board of Trustees took a major step in the arena of affordable housing Tuesday night, voting 6-0 to adopt an ordinance requiring 15 percent of homes in new residential developments to meet affordability standards.

The so-called Inclusionary Housing ordinance takes effect immediately, in the interest of "preservation of public, health, safety and welfare," as determined by the town's elected officials.

# glenwood

#### It's the only town in the valley without affordable housing mitigation

By Donna Daniels

If you write it, they will come. That was the mantra of the Regional Affordable Housing Initiative group, that pitched municipal ordinances that would lock into place mitigation standards for future housing developments.

Initiative task force members met with Glenwood Springs City Council and Housing For Tomorrow members at a workshop Thursday evening to present the findings of a six-month study funded by an \$84,000 grant from the state Department of Local Affairs Smart Growth program.

The study was also fueled by matching funds from local governments between Basalt and Glenwood Springs. Healthy Mountain Communities administered the initiative.

An outgrowth of the study is a set of readymade affordable housing mitigation ordinances that with a little tweaking could become part of a municipality's housing code.

And that's apparently what the Glenwood Springs City Council liked. With little or no effort they could be in the affordable housing business.

"That's the beauty of the process. This is really a working handbook. We just have to decide collectively what are the important thresholds," Glenwood Springs City Planner Andrew McGregor said of the initiative's model ordi-

ed affordable housing. A second ordinance, called commercial linkage, would be applied to commercial developments and require them to provide affordable housing based on the number of employees expected to be generated by the project.

Density bonuses or incentives, such as a streamlined application process, for granting housing densities higher than the underlying zoning, was a third proposal. The fourth ordinance would create a specific affordable housing zone overly that could be applied to any residential zone district to encourage higher density and clustered development.

Initiative consultants RCC Associates of Denver also recommended regional administration of affordable housing, either through a new organization or an existing agency such as the Garfield County Housing Authority.

Glenwood Springs is the first community to be approached by Healthy Mountain Communities to adopt the ordinances. It is the only community in the valley that does not have some sort of affordable housing mitigation standards in place.

Garfield County, Carbondale and Basalt each have regulations that require some percentage of new developments be deed restricted affordable housing.



Carpenter Brian Eastman works in a house under construction in West Glenwood. The city is considering ordinances that would mandate affordable housing be included in new housing projects. Jim Noelker photo. River Valley Ranch in Carbon-

council, said affordable housing should not necessarily not be required on the site of the project.

planner

Andrew McGregor

Town." Basalt Town Trustee Jacque Whitsitt said her council kept mitigation on-site with a purpose. "We're trying to keep the town socially integrated," she said.

dale. "What do they call it, Tinker

Members of the housing initiative task force urged the council to adopt the recommended ordinances.

"I sat through the Cardiff Glen hearings and we couldn't do anything because there is nothing in place," said Sheila Markowitz.

Road allow 20 percent of the homes to be partially subsidized, making them affordable to buy and then be deed restricted.

"It's morally wrong to sit on it any longer," said task force member Phil Wheelock.

Councilman Bob Zanella wanted to know how a regional administration would work. Would the various municipal ordinances have to be identical?

"It would be wise to standardize as closely as possible the mitigation so developers won't shop around," said Garfield County 

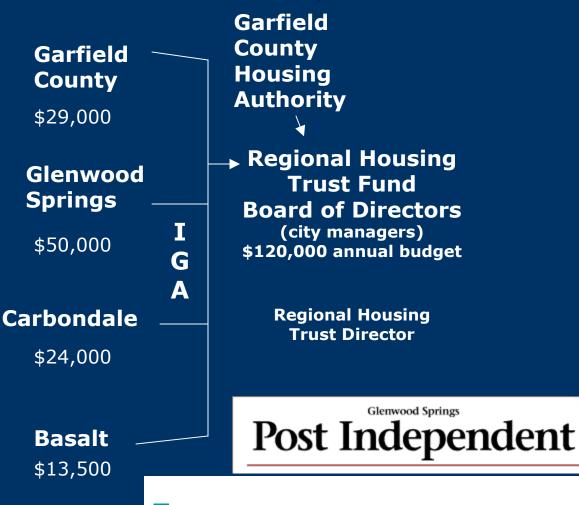
"That's the beauty of the process. This is really a working handbook. We just have to decide collectively what are the important thresholds."

#### New tool



29-1-204.5 - Establishment of multi-jurisdictional housing authorities

# Roaring Fork Community Housing Fund

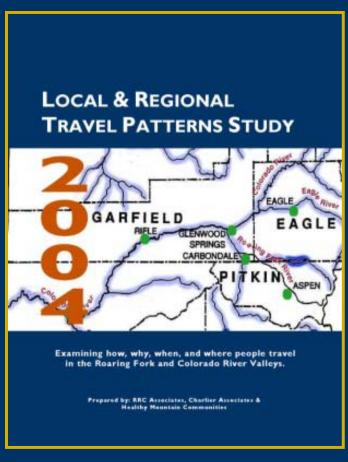


- Increase the regional cooperation
- Increase local government capacity
- Use
   entrepreneurial
   approach to
   leverage
   financing for
   community goals

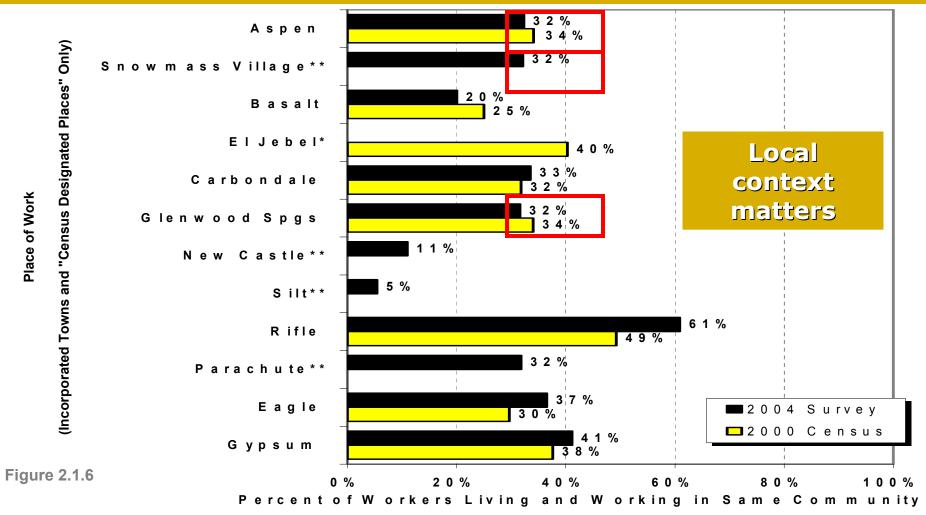
July 11, 2004
Fund to finance affordable housing
Final version up for review by cities, county this month

### Why Community Indicators?

#### Inform and engage



# Employees that live in the same community in which they work

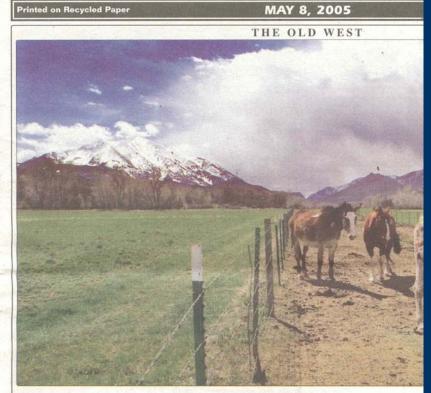


Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics; 2000 US Census; 2004 Employee Survey; RRC Associates, Inc.

<sup>\*</sup>ElJebelsam ple size below 40 responses.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Census information for communities with fewer than 2,500 persons in the year 2000 is unavailable. Survey responses for Silt and New Castle were fewer than 40 - interpret with caution.

# Common understanding & common ground



Mt. Sopris rises above a horse pasture near Carbondale. Active spring storm patterns have kept the Elk Mountain:

# Valley population predicted to double by 2030

By David Frey

by David Frey

The valley's population from Aspen to Parachute is expected to double by 2030, a state demographer er says, spurred largely by retiring babyboomers.

State Demographer Jim Westcott said the valley's population is expected to reach 212,200 by 2030, up from the 2000 census count of

103,100.

ly been considered in projections.

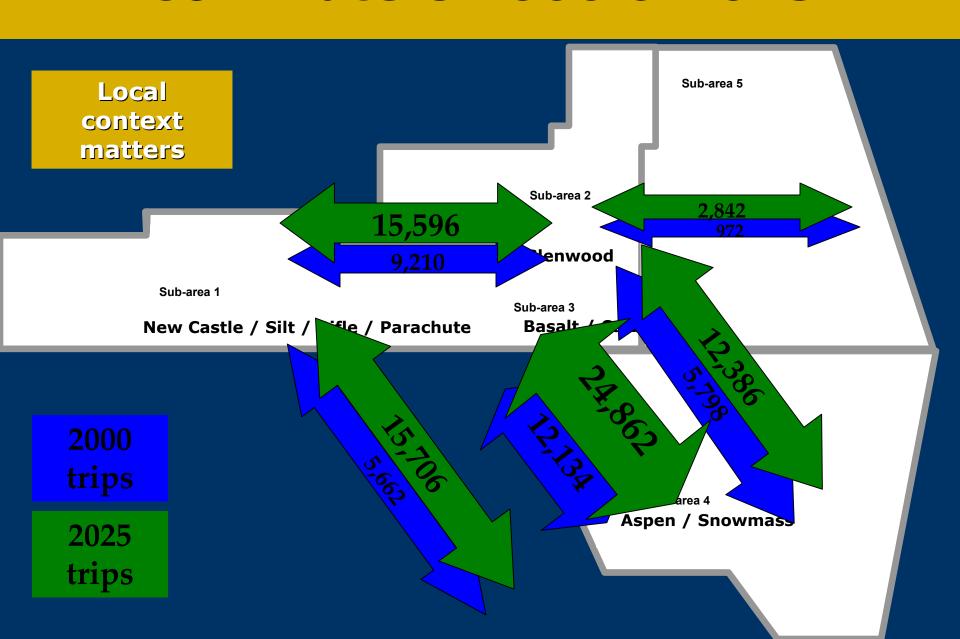
"Without any forethought, you're likely to end up with a giant mess, where the residents lose out to the economic drivers." 162,8000 in 2030.

"Without any forethought, you're likely to end up with a giant mess, where the residents lose out to the economic drivers," Westcott warned a crowd gathered at the Hotel Colorado on Friday for the organization Healthy Mountain Community's annual State of the Valley symposium.

The symposium offers local officials, planners and others a chance "Without any forethought, you're going to end up with a giant mess where the residents lose out to the economic drivers."

- Jim Westkott

#### Commuters 2000 & 2025



### Debate to Dialogue

# THE ASPEN TIMES

Vol. 18 • No. 106 • MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2005 • FREE • www.aspentimes.com





Top, vehicles packed Main Street during a recent July Fourth weekend. Above, the early morning commute. In the next 20 years, Highway 82 could see 50 percent more traffic. Aspen Times file photos.

# Traffic on 82 is only going to get worse, study says

By Scott Condon

Traffic on Highway 82 will reacumanageable levels within 20 yea due in large part to the creation jobs in Aspen and Pitkin Count according to an exhaustive report or regional travel patterns.

The daily traffic level wi increase by about 50 percent of Highway 82 in the next tw decades, says the Local an Regional Travel Patterns Stud commissioned by Healthy Mou tain Communities. The nonproforganization works on region issues facing the Roaring Fork at Colorado River valleys.

The study showed that traffic c Interstate 70 in Garfield Count could grow by 80 percent.

"It will not be possible to increas roadway capacity by anywhere nest these percentages, nor would such these percentages, nor would such attempt be good policy, give the side effects of highway expension, the study says. "It also we not be possible to increase trans' service see Taffe on page 7.

This is the first of a two-part series looking at the valley's increasing number of commuters. Tuesday's article will look at the study's recommendations for dealing with the new droves of drivers.

### ASPEN TIMES WEEKLY

Volume 105 | Issue Number 92 | Sunday, May 99, 9005 | Free

# 18,000 new jobs by 2025

Where will they live?
And how will they get to work?

Statement to questions

IIISIUE | Aspen's giroa apata a action, poesigning woman ziska Unilda

aspentimes.com

#### Updated population projections 2030

# DEMOGRAPHIC FORECASTS

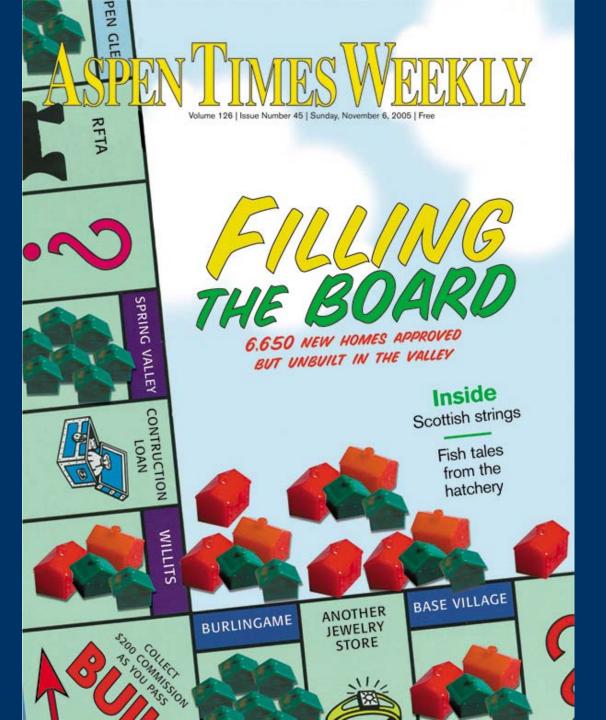
Eagle, Garfield, and Pitkin Counties 2005-2030

The Watershed Collaborative Growth Scenarios Project



|                    | 2000   | 2030    |
|--------------------|--------|---------|
| Eagle<br>County    | 43,000 | 88,000  |
| Garfield<br>County | 44,300 | 148,000 |
| Pitkin<br>County   | 15,800 | 26,000  |

Fall, 2005



# Training the media

# Regional collaborative problem-solving

#### **Comment & Opinion**

# THE ASPEN TIMES EDITORIAL Yikes! Future looks crowded

Yikes

That's about all we can say about the fact that there are 6,650 homes between Glenwood Springs and Aspen just waiting to be built. They are all approved, and with a few exceptions the only thing that needs to happen before they're built is for a developer to get a building permit. The opportunity for government review and public comment has long since passed.

Factor in the growth that state demographers have projected between Glenwood Springs and Rifle, and our future becomes even more crowded.

Population growth projected for this region over the next 25 years will, even by cautious estimates, bring a staggering number of people into Garfield, Pitkin and Eagle counties. Garfield County's population is expected to grow from approximately 50,000 today to somewhere between 97,000 and 150,000 by 2030. Pitkin and Eagle counties also are projected to grow considerably during the next 25 years.

It's not hard to imagine how different this place will feel once all those people are living here. Nor is it difficult to imagine all the changes those new souls living and working here will bring to our mountain communities.

New schools will be necessary to educate thousands of children who will be growing up in the Roaring Fork Valley. Transit services will need to be expanded. (Area officials may soon regret killing the idea of a train from Glenwood to Aspen for local commuters and tourists.) Law enforcement and fire protection services will need beefing up. New parks, athletic fields and other recreation programs will be in high demand. Like it or not, government services will grow considerably in the coming years.

If the people living here now are to have any real control over our future, it's critical that their governments prepare for the impacts today.

The seven municipalities and three counties that govern the people living between Aspen and Rifle need to begin looking together for ways to pay for the infractureure and services that will surely be required.

A regional summit on growth just might be the solution. It would allow local governments to set aside their very real political differences and begin looking for ways to work together to protect the broader community from turning into a suburban disaster on the scale of Southern California.

If ever there were a time for us to set aside our differences and plan for the future, it is now.

"Population growth projected for this region over the next 25 years will, even by cautious estimates, bring a staggering number of people into [the region]."

"A regional summit on growth just might be the solution. It would allow local governments to set aside their very real political difference and begin looking for ways to work together to protect the broader community from turning into a suburban disaster . . ."







Background

HMC Info Regional Map **Local Communities** 

#### **Project AREAs**

- Indicators
- Housing - Transportation
- Smart Growth
- Health Insurance
- State of the Valley
- Economics

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HMC is a 501(c)3 public benefit corporation.

Thanks for your interest!





#### **Healthy Mountain Communities**

Regional collaboration & innovation - tough challenges have no boundaries

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#### Updated SocioEconomic Profiles

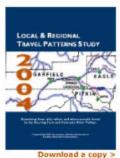
A Social commit Profile Profile System Community (SPSE)



More info >

New Population Job Projections

More info >



#### State of the Valley

#### State of the Valley News

#### October 2005 -

- Rifle voters approve one-centsales tax for parks
- · Colorado River Basins Proposal moves to evaluation
- · Retail Glants duke it out in Glenwood
- · Traffic counts pushes Aspen to create bus only lanes
- · Eagle County adopts 9-month moratorium
- Pitkin County health insurance costs
- Making health care more like public education
- Watershed Collaborative H20 Group works on outreach
- · Studying health effects of oil & gas development
- Garfield County Development Code Updates
- Headwaters Conference Nov. 4-6,
- Peak Oil Conference Nov. 10-11,

Read it >

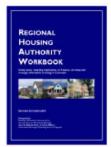
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The Watershed Collaborative

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